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Retired Sen. Sam Ervin got a standing ovation when he walked on the stage of Irvine Auditorium at the University of Pennsylvania campus Tuesday night from about 700 students who came to hear Senator Sam blast the rascals who brought us Watergate. Instead, the former South Carolina congressman took his liberal audience head-on, advocating such unpopular stands on campus issues as favoring the death penalty, opposing the equal rights amendment, favoring cuts in the federal poverty program, agreeing with the Warren Commission report, and favoring an American military solution to the Vietnam War when the U. S. was involved.

The standing ovation became polite applause by the end of his talk.